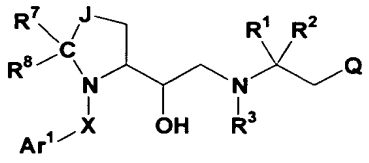
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of the formula I



I

wherein

Ar^1 is a substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl;

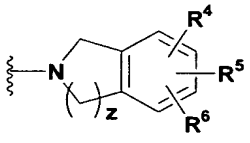
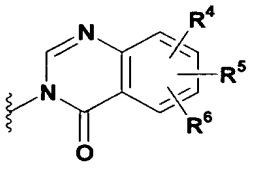
X is a linking group selected from alkylene, CO, alkyleneCO, OCO, alkyleneOCO, SO_2 and alkyleneSO_2;

J is a linking group selected from S, SO and SO_2;

R^1 and R^2 are each independently substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_4 alkyl, or R^1 can be cyclized with R^2 to form $(-CH_2-)_m$ where m is an integer from 2 to 5;

R^3 is hydrogen(H) or alkyl;

Q is Ar^1 or G;

G is  or  ;

z is 1 or 2;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen(H), halo, haloalkyl, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, alkylamino and alkylthio;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently selected from hydrogen(H), alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl;

including all prodrug esters, pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.

2. The compound as defined in claim 1 wherein

X is alkylene;

J is sulfur(S);

R^1 and R^2 are methyl, or R^1 is cyclized with R^2 to form a cyclopropyl ring;

R^3 is hydrogen;

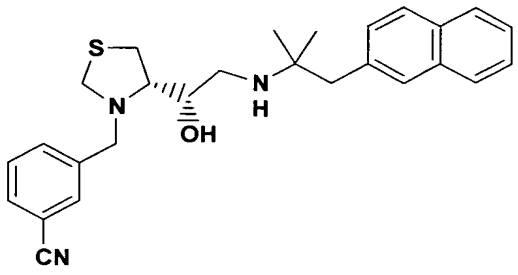
z is 2;

Q is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl or naphthyl, or G;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are hydrogen; and

R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen.

3. The compound as defined in claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from: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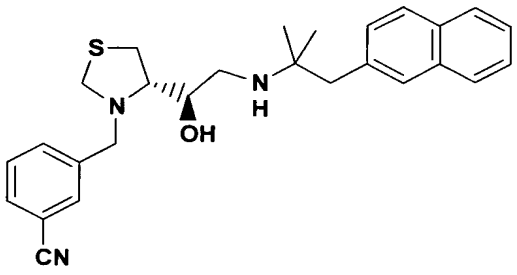
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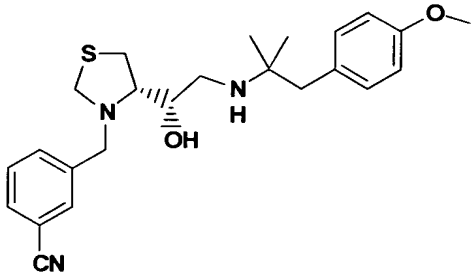
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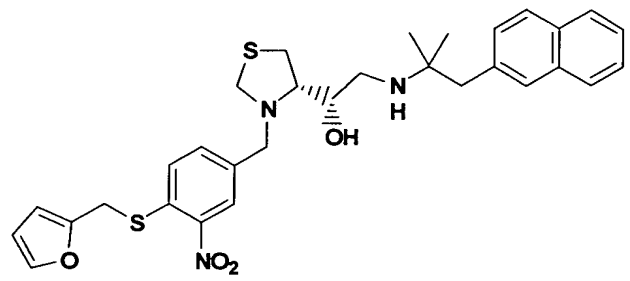
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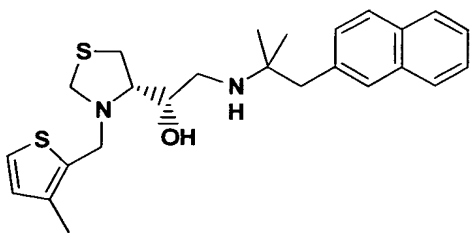
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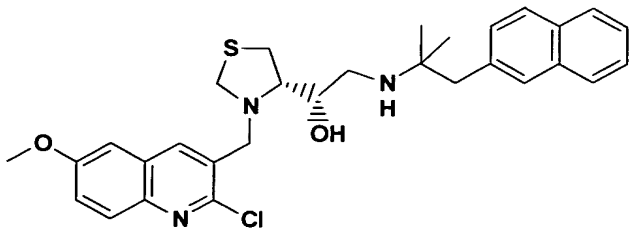
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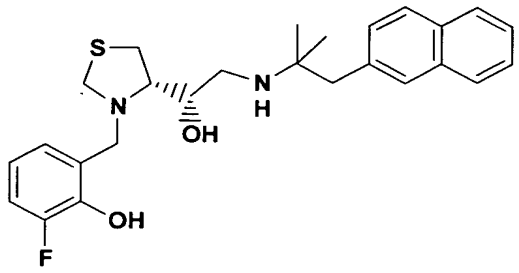

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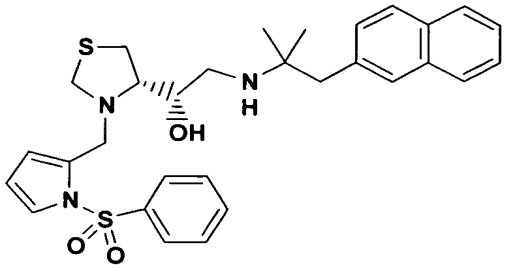

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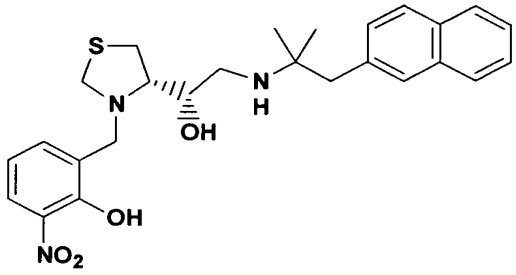

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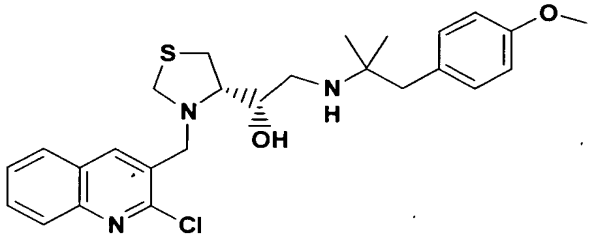

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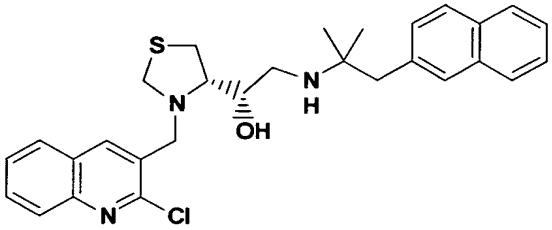

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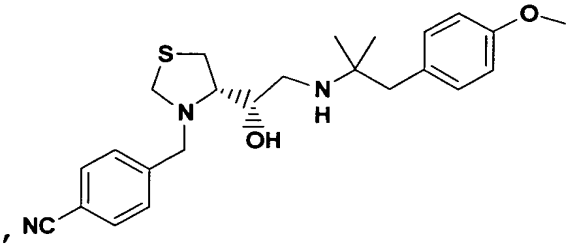

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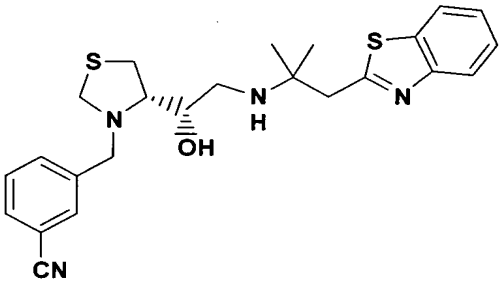

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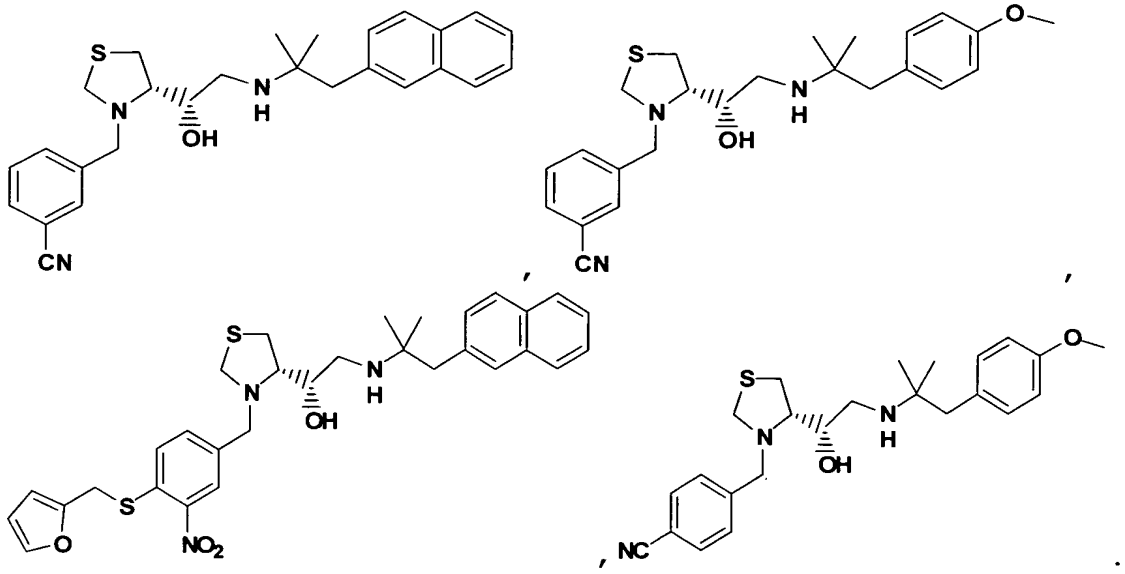
4. The compound as defined in claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from:



5. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5 further comprising at least one additional therapeutic agent selected from other compounds of formula I, anti-osteoporosis agents, cholesterol/lipid lowering agents, growth promoting agents, progesterone receptor agonists, modulators of bone resorption, selective estrogen receptor modulators, selective androgen receptor modulators, anti-resorptive agents, hormone replacement therapies, vitamin D, vitamin D analogues, elemental calcium, calcium supplements, cathepsin K inhibitors, MMP inhibitors, vitronectin receptor antagonists, Src SH_2 antagonists, Src kinase inhibitors, vacuolar H^+-ATPase inhibitors, PTH, PTH analogues and fragments,

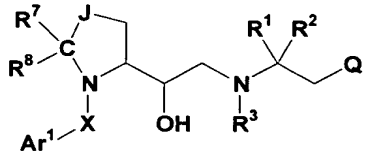
osteoprotegrin, Tibolone, p38 inhibitors, prostanoids, PPAR gamma antagonists and isoflavinoids.

7. A method for treating or delaying the progression or onset of hypoparathyroidism, osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, periodontal disease, fracture healing, osteoarthritis, Paget's disease, osteopenia, glucocorticoid induced osteoporosis, osteomalacia, osteoporosis, metastatic bone disease or joint replacement, which comprises administering to a mammalian species in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1.

8. The method according to claim 7 further comprising administering, concurrently or sequentially, a therapeutically effective amount of at least one additional therapeutic agent selected from other compounds of formula I, anti-osteoporosis agents, cholesterol/lipid lowering agents, growth promoting agents, progesterone receptor agonists, modulators of bone resorption, selective estrogen receptor modulators, selective androgen receptor modulators, anti-resorptive agents, hormone replacement therapies, vitamin D, vitamin D analogues, elemental calcium, calcium supplements, cathepsin K inhibitors, MMP inhibitors, vitronectin receptor antagonists, Src SH_2 antagonists, Src kinase inhibitors, vacuolar H^+-ATPase inhibitors, PTH, PTH analogues and fragments, osteoprotegrin, Tibolone, p38 inhibitors, prostanoids, PPAR gamma antagonists and isoflavinoids.

9. A method of enhancing bone formation in a mammalian species comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1 to a patient in need thereof.

10. A pharmaceutical composition capable of modulating the calcium sensing receptor comprising a compound of formula I



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wherein

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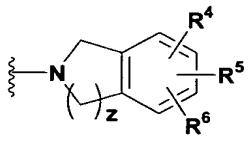
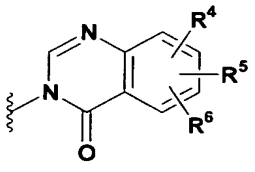
G is  or  ;

z is 1 or 2;

R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen(H), halo, haloalkyl, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, alkylamino and alkylthio;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently selected from hydrogen(H), alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl;

including all prodrug esters, pharmaceutically acceptable salts or stereoisomers thereof.

11. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10 wherein said composition is a calcium sensing receptor antagonist.